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 February 8-10

Wondering What a Host Does?  
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Monday	Jan 24 <sup>th</sup>	8:00-8:30	Wehner 159
Tuesday	Jan 25 <sup>th</sup>	8:00-8:30	Wehner 159

SIGN-UPS  
 TO HOST

SUNDAY JAN. 30th  
 1:00 p.m.  
 @ WEHNER 116

Host Mandatory Meeting

Must attend one!!!

Tuesday	Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30-8:00	Wehner 159
Wednesday	Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7:30-8:00	Wehner 159

Check out the company list at <http://wehner.tamu.edu/bsc>  
 Any Questions, email [chase00@tamu.edu](mailto:chase00@tamu.edu) or [n-lee@tamu.edu](mailto:n-lee@tamu.edu)

# Jackson named director of Student Activities

BY KENNETH MACDONALD  
 The Battalion

If Kevin Jackson's only challenge was to learn the names of all the student leaders on campus, his new position of Director of Student Activities would be easy. But being responsible for the advising of over 700 student organizations promises to keep Jackson busy 24 hours a day.

Jackson will direct the students, volunteer and a staff which works to closely manage and direct human, financial and physical resources for student activities.

The Department of Student Activities is in charge of a variety of services for organizations including the implementation of the University's official recognition process, the financial center in the Memorial Student Center, training seminars for leadership and workspace in the John J. Koldus Student Services Building.

"I am excited about being in a position to work with great student leaders," Jackson said. "We have a lot of potential with this tremendous asset."

Jackson added that he believes that Texas A&M has one of the most active student bodies of any higher education institution.

"Aggies want to contribute to something greater than ourselves. [The staff] help create an environment that students can grow personally," he said.

Jackson came to A&M in 1987 after receiving his undergraduate degree in journalism from the University of North Texas and his masters degree in higher education from the University of Denver.

When he came to A&M, he took a position as an associate director of the MSC for 12 years. Last August, Jackson was appointed as a special assistant to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

"[Jackson] is an outstanding professional who is student oriented with a vision and personality that will fit that position," Dr. Jan Winniford, associate vice

president for Student Affairs, said.

Jackson was selected from a nationwide search that yielded over 50 candidates and was chosen because of his long experience at A&M and for his work with students.

Winniford said that Jackson's extensive experience as senior assistant director of the MSC made him a perfect choice.

Jackson said his first mission will be to get to know the 25 members of his staff and the leaders of the student-run organizations.

"I want to build a personal relationship with the student leaders," he said. "I plan to set up meetings with them and find out what is going well and what is not so we can share that information with the other organizations."

In addition to leadership classes that are already offered, the department is forming a student leadership institution and building a leadership retreat center.

"I want the Department of Student Activities to be a gateway for student involvement," Jackson said. "Student leadership is the major focus of this department."

Applications are open to all students who wish to join the institute, which will meet once a week to hear guest speakers talk about aspects of leadership. The first



Kevin Jackson, the new Director of Student Activities who was selected from a nationwide search of over 50 candidates, said he wants a more personal relationship with student leaders.

lecture will be February 16. Another of Jackson's goals is to strive for the use of technology.

"We want to enhance the web pages so that they can be more sharing and dissemination of information," he said.

"We want Web pages for all the student organizations to be more publicized on campus."

Jackson is replacing Ben Welch, who accepted a position as the director of the Center of Executive Development in the College of Business.

# Conference brings together over 50 schools, host of BET show

BY MATT LOFTIS  
 The Battalion

African-American students from over 50 schools nationwide came together to participate in the Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference (SBSLC) at Texas A&M University this weekend.

The conference, aimed at building leadership and solidarity among participants, featured several celebrity speakers, a career fair and a Millennium Magic concert with Destiny's Child and DJ Jubilee.

Bertice Berry, talk show host, motivational speaker, best-selling author and host of "USA Live" spoke Thursday night at a dinner for conference participants.

Tavis Smiley, keynote speaker for the conference and host of Black Entertainment Television's "BET Tonight with Tavis Smiley," spoke at the closing banquet Saturday night.

The conference also hosted a career fair for students in all majors, aimed at giving participants an opportunity to network with one another and speak with companies in their field.

"All the people said they really liked the career fair," Brandon Garrett, director of corporate relations for SBSLC and a senior international studies and economics major, said. "It's probably one of the most diverse career fairs at A&M."

"The speeches and career fair [were] a great experience for leadership



Travis Smiley, host of the BET television show "BET Tonight with Tavis Smiley," speaks at the SBSLC conference at the Hilton Hotel dinner on Saturday.

building," Walter Prater, a sophomore business major from Southwest Texas State University, said.

In the 10 years since the conference was founded by eight African-American A&M students, it has grown from 300 students to being the largest student-run conference in the nation.

The conference is run by 28 students and one adviser.

"The main thing is the strengthening of leadership skills and networking skills," Felicia Scott, Director of Multicultural Services and SBSLC adviser and founder, said.

"This is a great opportunity to net-

work with one another to handle the challenges we're facing."

The conference also featured entertainment, including a jazz-themed social last Thursday, a casino night Friday and the Millennium Magic concert Saturday night.

"All four events were really successful and the participants really enjoyed it," April Reed, director of entertainment for SBSLC and a junior journalism major, said.

The conference officially closed Sunday with a church service for conference participants at All Faiths Chapel.

## News in Brief

### Applications for Student Senate

The Student Senate at A&M University has seven senator spots. The vacant seats include the College of Business, College of Liberal Studies, College of Education and Northside.

Applications are available for the Student Government office in 127 Koldus Student Center or online at [senate.tamu.edu](http://senate.tamu.edu). Applications are due by 2:28 p.m. Contact Jan and to go about Speaker Pro-Tempore at [jan@tamucapitol.com](mailto:jan@tamucapitol.com) for more information.

### Possessions left at bonfire available

Personal possessions left at the site of the Aggie Bonfire will be claimed today from 2:28 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in room 145 of the Student Center.

Items found include tools, pliers, pots, and watches left from the Polo Fields during the cleanup of the 1999 Bonfire collapse.

Thirty trash bags full of debris and effects have been cataloged and stored for almost two months. Students must state what they lost and show a form of identification to claim an item.

If necessary, Texas A&M University will sponsor another bonfire this semester for students to claim items.

### Correction

In the Jan. 20 column "Who could kill," the name of the victim should have read Brian Deneke and the name of the suspect is Dustin Camp.

## Future Teachers study Abroad in Italy

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 The Study Abroad Program Office  
 845-0544  
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NEWS: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Media, Department of Journalism. News offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-2678. [TheBattalion@tamu.edu](mailto:TheBattalion@tamu.edu). Web site: <http://battalion.tamu.edu>

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THE BATTALION (ISSN #1056-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University, Periodicals Postage College Station, TX 77840. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 015 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-1111.